

**Minutes of the  
Litchfield Budget Committee Meeting  
Held on February 1, 2020**

The Litchfield Budget Committee held a meeting on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, Litchfield, NH 03052.

**PRESENT:** K Douglas (Chair), A Cutter (Vice Chair), J Bourque, J Martin, N Fordey, B Hodgkins, W Hayes, R Leary (Selectmen's Representative), R Meyers (School Board Representative)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Douglas called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.

**2. PUBLIC INPUT**

There was no public input.

**3. REVIEW / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- **January 9, 2020**
- **January 16, 2020**
- **January 20, 2020**

**MOTION:** by Mrs. Bourque

*Move to approve the minutes of January 9, 16 and 20, 2020 as amended*

**SECOND:** by Mrs. Fordey

**VOTE: 9-0-0**

**The motion carried.**

**4. TOWN BUDGET**

- **Revised Warrant Articles**

Mrs. Douglas indicated that Article 17-by Petition was amended at Deliberative Session to reflect a change to the Veterans' Tax Credit. The tax credit was initially requested to be increased from \$300 to \$750 and was changed to be increased from \$300 to \$500. Mrs. Douglas indicated the article was not recommended by the Budget Committee as originally presented by a vote of 4-4-1. The article will be amended and appear on the ballot (see below):

*Article 17 - By Petition*

*To see if the Town will vote to increase the Veterans' Tax Credit and the All Veterans' Tax Credit from \$300 to \$500 per year?*

**MOTION:** by Mr. Cutter

*Move to recommend Article 17 as amended at Deliberative Session*

**SECOND:** by Mrs. Fordey

**VOTE: 8-0-1, with Mrs. Douglas abstaining**

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. Douglas explained she abstained because she feels that the increase in taxes is up to the individual taxpayers to decide.

## 5. PUBLIC INPUT

Brian Bourque, 1 Westview Drive, asked Mrs. Douglas to clarify her vote on the article.

Mrs. Douglas explained that she feels even though there is no budget impact from the article, there is a tax impact and that tax impact is up to the individual who is voting. She indicated she is not disputing the impact.

Mr. Bourque commented that the rationale is not valid for abstaining from the vote.

Mrs. Douglas commented she does not feel she should tell someone that they should increase their taxes as a result of increasing the tax credit.

Mr. Bourque indicated that she voted in support of other articles that increases the tax rate as well.

Mrs. Douglas indicated this is her personal decision and she appreciates the feedback from Mr. Bourque.

## 6. MEMBER INPUT

There was no member input.

## 7. ADJOURN

**MOTION:** by Mr. Cutter

*Move to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m.*

**SECOND:** by Mrs. Bourque

**VOTE: 9-0-0**

**The motion carried.**

**Next meeting:**

**Recorded by: Michele E. Flynn, Recording Secretary**